To obtain satisfactory reproduction from Line, Tone, or Colour Blocks
CONSULT:
THE MAIL, Process Dept.
Phone: 2951

REGD. No. M 81 | VOL. LXXXIX No. 49

1½ ANNAS

The Mail

WITH WHICH ARE INCORPORATED The Spectator 1836. The Madras Times 1860.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1956 | 8 PAGES

S.R.V.S
PROMPT SERVICE FROM WAGGON TO WARE HOUSE
DINROZE ESTATE, 1/17, MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS-2

Rs 166 LAKHS DEFICIT MADRAS BUDGET: 4 TAXES UP

Additional sales tax on sugar, diesel oil levy increased, higher tariff on electricity

RYOTWARI ASSESSMENT ON INAM LANDS IN LIEU OF QUIT RENT

Higher emoluments for clerical staff

MADRAS, Feb. 27.

THE Finance Minister, Mr C. Subramaniam, today proposed four new taxation measures to cover a deficit budget of Rs 311 lakhs, presented by him to the Legislative Assembly.

The new taxes are expected to yield Rs 155 lakhs, leaving a deficit of Rs 166 lakhs.

The taxes are:

1. The tax on diesel oil will be enhanced from 1½ annas to 4 annas per gallon to bring in an additional revenue of Rs 30 lakhs per annum.

2. An additional sales-tax of one anna in the rupee will be levied on the sale of sugar at any one suitable point, to yield about Rs 40 lakhs per annum.

3. The rate of supply of electric energy to licensees and bulk consumers on the High Tension tariff in the Hydro-electric areas will be stepped up by 30 per cent. The present rates based on pre-war conditions are in many cases found to be below the bare cost of generation. The enhancement will not apply to consumers supplied by the Madras Electricity System. The Railway administration will be exempted from this enhancement. New industrial concerns will also be exempted from the extra levy for the first 3 years after the commencement of production. The proposed measure may bring in about Rs 45 lakhs per annum.

Ryotwari assessment will be levied on Inam lands in lieu of quit-rent. This measure may bring in about Rs 30 lakhs per annum.

The one tax relief proposed is the exemption from sales-tax on the sale of palm-gur at all points

With the additional taxation now proposed, the Revenue gap will be reduced to Rs 166 lakhs. The deficit is still large but should not cause alarm, because it is of the order which can be wiped off by the upward trend in revenues in a year of fair seasonal conditions.

Besides, it is not unlikely that the readjustments in taxation proposed in the Central Budget may give us something on items of Central Revenue shared with States. It is therefore proposed to leave the Revenue deficit uncovered.

Capital expenditure

The Budget provides for a capital expenditure of Rs 26.61 lakhs.

Other highlights are concessions to public servants, from village officers to Secretariat clerks, revision of their pay and grades.

Teachers are also beneficiaries as all secondary grade teachers are brought to the higher grade.

Children of Government servants will enjoy full fee concessions up to Form VI.

The Minister took about 50 minutes to read the twenty page printed speech introducing the Budget and he paused only once in the middle to sip water and coughed once or twice towards the end.

Except for the loud applause which greeted him when he finished there were no cheers or acclamations. Only once there was a mild applause from a member when the Minister said that it was proposed to give scholarships to about 10 per cent of the poor boys attending professional colleges, the grants being made purely on considerations of merit.

Mr Subramaniam referred to the recent cyclone which devastated large tracts in the districts of Ramanathapuram, Tanjore, Madurai and Tiruchirappalli the damage caused, and the prompt relief measures undertaken by the Government.

The Revised Estimates for the year provide for an outlay of Rs 150 lakhs on these measures; and the spill-over into the ensuing year is expected to be Rs 212 lakhs, making in all about Rs 3½ crores. Another sum of about Rs 1½ crores will be required for distribution as loans to agriculturists. More than half the direct outlay will be on repairs to irrigation works, for which a special Superintending Engineer's Circle with five Executive Divisions has been organized.

The Chief Engineer has been instructed to give the highest priority to this work and complete the repairs to all tanks by July, in time for the next monsoon rains. In view of the exiguous resources of local boards in the areas, it has been decided to repair the damaged roads and buildings in their charge at Government cost. Assistance is also being rendered to aided educational institutions on a liberal scale for repairs to their damaged buildings.

From the Government of India we may expect on specified items of relief, a 50 per cent grant on the first Rs 2 crores of outlay, and 75 per cent grant on the outlay in excess of Rs 2 crores. We have also sought a loan of Rs 1 crore from the Centre for being disbursed as loans to agriculturists in the current year.

Even though we regret the heavy loss sustained in this cyclone, we are thankful for the widespread rains which accompanied the gale. These rains were timely all over the State and have ensured fair seasonal conditions for the year. There is still some distress in the Nanguneri area of Tirunelveli district, and adequate measures are being taken to meet that local situation. Crop pests are being reported from certain districts but the department has been able to deal with them and avert extensive damage. Grain prices are steady and we may generally hope for a fair agricultural year. The storage in the Mettur Reservoir is, however, low and there may be some difficulty in maintaining power supplies in the summer, but let us hope that the reservoir will still get the necessary replenishment during the April showers.

Five-Year Plan

While presenting the Budget Estimates for this year, I had indicated that with the outlay of Rs 25.83 crores proposed for the year on the present Five-Year Plan, that Plan would be implemented more or less in full. But the actuals of 1954-55 showed a gap of about Rs 2 crores. This is being made up in the Revised Estimates for this year, now fixed at Rs 27,92 crores and therefore, our expectations on the current Plan are being generally fulfilled. On irrigation and electricity works, which together account for 60 per cent of the planned outlay, we have reached the targets set in the Plan. There are short-falls in certain other departments like Agriculture, Highways, Public Health, Forests and Education which occurred mostly during the famine years owing to our inability to raise the necessary revenue resources during those lean years. This spill-over will be carried forward for implementation early in the new Plan period.

Regarding the new Five-Year Plan the pattern of Central assistance on the various schemes to be financed from the current revenues has yet to be finalised in many cases. The size of the State Plan will depend largely on the resources which can be raised within the State during the next five years. What is of immediate significance is the programme of work to be carried out during the coming year within the broad frame work of the Plan. 500 new schemes are proposed for inclusion in the Budget.

Agriculture

In the field of agriculture the Plan envisages the opening of 400 State-owned seed-farms of 25 acres each for the production of primary seeds which when multiplied will meet the requirements of the State. It is proposed to start 50 seed-farms in the Budget year mostly in the Extension Development Blocks. For the control of pests and diseases, 4 plant protection units will be opened in the year where insecticides and sprayers will be stored for being rushed to affected areas. A Central Sugarcane Research Station at Nellikuppam and a sub-station at Tiruchirappalli are being set up in the year. A scheme for the encouragement of the cultivation of sugarcane of higher sugar-content, is being initiated. Research Schemes on improved strains of millets and cashew and for the eradication of pests in betel-vines are being sanctioned.

Provision is also being made for liberal loans for horticultural developments. The Agricultural College is being expanded to increase the admissions from 108 to 162. A new land colonization scheme to develop the Attapady valley in Malabar district is being sanctioned. The new road to open up this valley has been started last year and the work is making fair progress. Amongst the intensive manuring schemes, the provision for the distribution of about one lakh tons of ammonium sulphate is noteworthy.

Animal Husbandry

In Animal Husbandry, we are extending the Key Village Scheme to 54 new villages. A subsidy of Rs 10 per month will be given for the proper maintenance of about 2,000 bull-calves born in key villages. These new breeding bulls will be stationed in Extension Centres outside the key villages and seven such centres will be opened during the year. The number of artificial insemination centres in urban areas is being increased by another 5. A new cattle farm is being opened in Ramanathapuram district, and improvements are being sanctioned to many of the existing farms.

The College of Animal Husbandry is being strengthened so as to increase the admission from 80 to 120 in the College course, and from 55 to 100 in the Compounder's course.

The details of the dairy scheme for Madras City are being worked out by a special officer, and it will be launched during the course of the year. Under this Scheme, a farm of about 4,000 milch cows will be started at Erukkancheri near Madras, so that the milk needs of the City can be adequately supplemented.

The City sewage will be diverted to this farm for raising the required fodder.

A Regional Poultry Development Farm of about 6,000 birds will be opened at Coimbatore dur-

(Continued on Page 6)

BOGUS BUS TICKET CASE

3 persons to take Sessions trial

MADRAS, Feb. 27: Mr T. R. Narayanan, Fifth Presidency Magistrate, committed Thanikachalam, Jayaraman, and Shanmugham, charged with conspiracy and cheating the Government Bus Transport by issuing bogus tickets to passengers and appropriating the money, to take their trial before the City Sessions Court.

Thanikachalam, a dismissed bus conductor, Jayaraman, conductor, and Shanmugham, proprietor of a company of block makers and rubber stamp manufacturers, were charged with different offences, including conspiracy, cheating, forgery etc. The fourth accused in the case Ethiraj, a former conductor of the City Transport service, absconding.

The prosecution case was that different dates the accused issued bogus tickets of different denominations to passengers and appropriated to themselves the money so obtained.

Concessions to public servants

MADRAS, Feb. 27.

THE Madras Budget provides for a few concessions to public servants. The salaries of village officers in estates taken over by the Government are being upgraded to the level of those in ryotwari areas. "This measure is expected to cost about Rs 4 lakhs per annum and will benefit a large class of loyal public servants."

The scales of pay for Veterinary Assistant Surgeons and Livestock Inspectors are being revised and a compensatory allowance is being given to those Assistant Surgeons working in key villages. Deputy Jailors and Jailors in charge of special sub-jails will get a little enhancement in their pay.

Upper Division Clerks in the Secretariat will get higher increments in the earlier stages of their career.

Certain disabilities of typists and stenographers in the fixation of their pay on promotion and of Personal Assistants and Clerks of Ministers in their leave salary, are being removed.

Attenders in Government offices and Civil Courts will get a slight enhancement in their annual increments.

Copyists and Examiners in Criminal Courts will be put on regular scales of pay instead of being paid on the basis of piecework.

Head Accountants and Superintendents in Settlement Offices will also be put on incremental scales of pay instead of the present fixed pay.

The scales of pay of compounders and Lay Secretaries of Hospitals will be revised in their favour.

District Officers will be given a higher rate of milage on journeys in excess of 40 miles, when done in their own motor vehicles. "These concessions taken individually are indeed of small financial consequence but the cumulative effect of all of them is appreciable", said the Finance Minister, Mr C. Subramaniam.

Girl students assured of protection

RAIPUR, Feb. 26: The District Magistrate of Raipur has assured girl students of the local Laxminarayan Vidya Mandir that steps will be taken to protect them from anti-social elements harassing them.

Over 100 girl students (not 2,000 as reported yesterday) of the Mandir took out a procession demanding action by police and local authorities against "roadside Romeos", including some boy students in the city.

Weeping boy may sleep for life: Sequel to car crash

OTTAWA (By Air Mail).

A CAR crash has condemned ten-year-old Michael Oates to a living death.

He will live, say doctors, for the next 60 or 70 years. But he will never wake up again. His brain is damaged beyond repair.

For nearly six months he has lain in a hospital bed in Hamilton, Ontario, with his blue eyes wide open and blank.

Yet frequently he weeps silently, as though aware of his fate in some deep fortress of his mind.

Held out hand

Only once has he uttered a sound.

That was two months ago when his mother, who was widowed in the accident and herself seriously injured came to see him.

A nurse said today: "Michael looked at his mother for several minutes, then his eyes filled with tears.

"He cried very hard for about a minute, then groaned loudly, one hand extending towards his mother."

Michael's 31-year-old mother, Mrs Myrtle Oates, wept bitterly today when doctors told her: "For the next 60 or 70 years your son will be unaware of the world around him."

Doctors and surgeons had held a special three-hour conference to review Michael's case.

They reached this unanimous verdict, made public by Dr R. A. Hughes:

"The brain has suffered a severe injury, and everything humanly possible has been done for the boy

"Along with the family physician I discussed and presented the facts to many colleagues and could arrive one conclusion—Michael will never wake up."

The accident which robbed Michael of his future happened as the family were returning to Hamilton after putting finishing touches to a new home that they were about to move into.

Prayers

Mrs Oates said: "We were going to move to the suburbs because Michael liked the spot so much. If it hadn't been for him we would not have bought the place.

"I'm going to keep it for him."

Charitable organisations throughout the city are setting up funds to help her to pay funeral and hospital expenses and a member of the Ontario Legislature has promised to put her case to the Ontario Government.

Prayers have been offered up in Mrs Oates's church.

The Rev. C. M. Andrews told his congregation. "Put forth extra effort in your prayers so that if there is a slight possibility, and if the good Lord will see it is right, Michael will come around."

A 'HUMDRUM' BUDGET

View of Leader of Opposition

MADRAS, Feb. 27: The Madras Budget did not produce any visible or pronounced immediate reaction among members of the Assembly.

The remark made by Mr M. Narayana Kurup that it is an "uninspiring Budget" could be said to have been shared by many.

"It is a humdrum Budget," observed Mr P. Ramamurthi, Leader of the Opposition.

Mr Ramamurthi said he was not in a mood with his head reeling after a long journey to concentrate in detail on the Budget. But when pressed for his immediate reaction, he said there was nothing particularly new or striking. Many of the items mentioned in connexion with the Second Plan were still in the realm of conjecture and there was still a lot of tall talk and propaganda about spending Rs 4,800 crores.

Will hit the poor

The tax on sugar would certainly hit the poor and the middle class people. It was also strange that at a time when the Government thought in terms of helping agriculture in all possible ways the electricity rate should be proposed to be increased.

In areas where electricity was used for irrigation purposes the cost of electricity formed a sizable portion of the cost of cultivation and any increase in the rate would hit the agriculturist hard

Mr K. K. Mahomed Shafi said a deficit Budget with proposals for new taxes was not creditable for the Ministry which brought it.

Mysore Budget

BANGALORE, Feb. 27: The Mysore Government's Budget for 1956-57 will be presented to both Houses of Legislature simultaneously on Mar. 8 at a special morning session.

It is understood that the Budget will be based on the likelihood of the present Mysore State being completely reorganised by October next.—F.O.C.

Acquire Malayan citizenship

Minister's advice to Indian settlers

BATU GAJAH (Malaya) Feb. 26: Mr V. V. Sambandham, Malaya's Minister for Labour, today told Indians here to take up Malayan citizenship, and regard that country as their home and the object of their loyalty.

Speaking at the inaugural meeting of the Batu Gajah branch of the Malayan Indian Congress, he said that Indians had to cooperate and unite with other nationalities.

"Momentous times are ahead, and history has given a glorious opportunity to everyone here to take part in the task of building a nation," he said.

INDEPENDENCE

Indian astrologer's forecast

SINGAPORE, Feb. 25: An Indian astrologer today forecast that Singapore would achieve independence on Mar. 21, 1957.

In an interview published in the "Straits Times", professor S. Sardar, who claims to have spent 25 years forecasting the future in Borneo, Sumatra, India, Ceylon, and Burma, said, "Jupiter is next year's shining star. A year of progress for all." The Professor also predicted Singapore's Union with the Federation of Malaya next year.

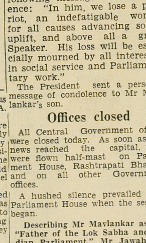
On the possibility of a third world war, he said "we astrologers have not yet seen the star that in 1941 heralded the last war."

Parliament adjourns

FATHER OF LOK SABHA, SAYS NEHRU

NEW DELHI, Feb. 27.

BOTH Houses of Parliament adjourned today without transacting any business as a mark of respect to the memory of Mr G. V. Mavlankar. Earlier, members in both the Houses stood in silence for two minutes to pay respect to the memory of the deceased.



MR G. V. MAVLANKAR

President Prasad issued the following message of condolence: "In him, we lose a patriot, an indefatigable worker for all causes advancing social uplift, and above all a great Speaker. His loss will be especially mourned by all interested in social service and Parliamentary work."

The President sent a personal message of condolence to Mr Mavlankar's son.

Offices closed

All Central Government offices were closed today. As soon as the news reached the capital, flags were flown half-mast on Parliament House, Rashtrapati Bhavan, and on all other Government offices.

A hushed silence prevailed over Parliament House when the session began.

Describing Mr Mavlankar as the "Father of the Lok Sabha and Indian Parliament," Mr Jawaharlal Nehru said his passing away had made the House "almost like a headless body."

In a voice almost choked in grief, Mr Nehru observed: "We cannot think of our Lok Sabha without Mr Mavlankar. He was inseparable from the House a cementing link between all of us."

The Prime Minister said misfortune "has been descending upon us this month from all directions, and it is my lot to break the evil tidings to the House."

Guiding deity

Mr Nehru said that for nine years or so, they had been functioning in the Legislature together—the last days of the old Assembly, then the Constituent Assembly, and now in the Lok Sabha.

"During all these years, days of difficulty and strain, it is Mr Mavlankar, who sat as the guiding deity trying to keep us on the right path, and moulding the development of parliamentary life."

Mr Mavlankar had dealt with difficult situations with "firmness and courtesy." He had been associated with a number of social organisations. "We are sad and feel forlorn, and the whole country mourns the loss of this great patriot and social worker," concluded Mr Nehru.

He requested the Deputy Speaker to convey the "deep feelings of sorrow" to the members of his family.

All Opposition leaders paid tributes to Mr Mavlankar.

The Deputy Speaker, Mr M Ananthasayanam Ayyangar, associated himself with sentiment expressed and said the country had sustained a great loss.

Recalling his association with Mr Mavlankar, Mr Ayyangar said: "I have learnt many a lesson under him and if I was able to do anything in this House, it was entirely due to the advice he was giving me from time to time".

"A great Speaker"

In the Rajya Sabha, the Vice-President, Dr S. Radhakrishnan, said: "We have lost a distinguished public servant, and a great Speaker".

The Leader of the House, Pundit G. B. Pant, said, "Mr Mavlankar was a truly great man, a pure soul, a leader of men, and one who gave of his best in the service of the nation".

MYSORE ASSEMBLY ADJOURNS

Chief Minister's Tribute

BANGALORE, Feb. 27: The Mysore Legislative Assembly today adopted a condolence resolution, and adjourned for the day.

Mr K. Hanumanthaiya, Chief Minister of Mysore, said: "I knew him as Speaker and also as my leader when I accompanied him in the delegation to the Inter-Parliamentary Union at Dublin. He was an earnest person, anxious to do the right always. His personality left an impression, wherever he went, and his presence as Speaker in the Chair was instinctively felt by the House. In the whole of India, it is difficult to find another Speaker of his order."

Mr K. T. Bhashyam, Chairman, Mysore Legislative Council: "He upheld the highest traditions of parliamentary democracy, and enhanced the dignity and prestige of the Houses of Legislature."

Mr H. S. Rudrappa, Speaker, Mysore Legislative Assembly said: "It will be impossible to come up to the standards he had set for Speakership."

MAVLANKAR DEAD

Speaker of the first Indian Parliament

AMEDABAD, Feb. 27.

MR G. V. MAVLANKAR, Speaker of the Lok Sabha died at his residence here this morning. He was 68. The condition of Mr Mavlankar, who was suffering from a heart attack, took a sudden turn for the worse this morning, and he passed away at 7-55 a.m.

Mr Mavlankar had an attack of coronary thrombosis on Feb. 9. After a slight recovery there was a turn for the worse on the night of Feb. 19, when the doctors attending on him said there were indications of fresh attack.

Subsequently, there was marked improvement in his condition, and medical opinion was that the progress was satisfactory, and was being maintained.

Last night doctors announced that Mr Mavlankar was gradually recovering from his illness. They stated that in view of this progressive improvement, no bulletins on his health would be issued.

Immediately after the first attack on Feb. 9, Mr Mavlankar's two sons, Dr Vishnu and Mr Balkrishna, who were in Europe, returned to India to be present by their father's bedside. Mrs Mavlankar, his two other sons, and a daughter were also present during his last moments.

Mr Mavlankar was restful last night, but about three a.m. he became suddenly restless, and vomited. He was immediately attended to by his doctors, and he felt comfortable after some time. But the day dawned with an uneasy feeling, and Mr Mavlankar vomited three times at about 7-45 a.m. and suddenly collapsed. He passed away five minutes later.

Mr Jawaharlal Nehru and the Chief Minister of Bombay, Mr Morarji Desai were informed of his death.

Fifteen minutes after 12 noon, the body was placed on a bier and carried by his sons and relatives to the Congress House, where thousands of people paid their homage.

All textile mills, workshops, and other industrial establishments, and educational institutions in the city were closed.

"Baby" to Gandhiji

Mr Ganesh Vasudeo Mavlankar, "Baby" to Mahatma Gandhi, "Dada Saheb" to his compatriots in Gujerat, and "Speaker" to the whole country, made a name for himself in all the fields to which he devoted himself—as a practising lawyer, patriot, social worker, parliamentarian, and constructive thinker.

Born at Baroda on Nov. 27, 1888, Mr Mavlankar set up practice as a lawyer at the Ahmedabad Bar in 1913. From an early stage, he evinced an active interest in social work as well as politics—an interest which never waned till the end.

Drawn towards politics, he joined the Gujerat Sabha, a political organisation, and in 1917 participated in the "No Rent Campaign" in Kaira district. In the next two or three years, he devoted more attention to social welfare work by organising influenza and famine reliefs.

During those early days of his political career, Mr Mavlankar was known to be inclined towards the liberal school of politics led by Gopalakrishna Gokhale.

Elected to Ahmedabad Municipality

In 1920 were sown the seeds of his future parliamentary career, when he was elected to the Ahmedabad Municipality. In the years that followed Mr Mavlankar, like other patriots of the day, was attracted by the Mahatma's personality.

Mahatma Gandhi in those days was spending a considerable part of his time at Sabarmati Ashram near Ahmedabad, and this gave Mr Mavlankar opportunities to come into close association with him.

During this period, Mr Mavlankar had also opportunities of association with Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. Both Gandhiji and Sardar Patel were known to lay great store on Mr Mavlankar's advice.

Mr Mavlankar plunged into political life in 1921, when he was elected General Secretary of the 36th session of the Indian National Congress at Ahmedabad. For the next two years, he remained the General Secretary of the Gujerat Provincial Congress Committee.

Then followed a period of comparative quiet, during which Mr Mavlankar again found time to devote himself to civic and social services. In 1927, he organised flood relief in Ahmedabad district. In 1930, he was elected President of the City Municipality, in which post he continued till 1933. In that year when he participated in the second civil disobedience movement launched by Mahatma Gandhi, Mr Mavlankar was interned at Ratnagiri.

At the beginning of the last decade, Mr Mavlankar came to be recognised as one of the top-ranking leaders of the independence movement, which swept the country from end to end. Selected by Gandhiji to offer individual satyagraha in 1940, he was, by a curious coincidence, arrested on Nov. 27, his birthday.

After exactly one year in jail, partly at Yerawada near Poona, and partly at Sabarmati, he was released in November, 1941, only to be rearrested a few months later on the historic occasion of the "Quit India" movement of Aug. 9, 1942, along with other top leaders of the Congress.

Central Assembly Speaker

Mr Mavlankar was released from jail in March, 1944. His successful term as the President of the Bombay Legislative Assembly between 1937 and 1940 made him the natural choice for the Speakership of the Central Legislative Assembly in 1946 on the eve of Independence.

After independence he succeeded to the Speakership of the Lower House of the first Indian Parliament, which post he held till the end despite failing health.

He took a keen interest in the Commonwealth Parliamentary Conferences. He initiated the annual conferences of Speakers of State Legislatures for discussion of Parliamentary practices and exchange of views.

He was the Trustee of the Sabarmati Ashram for a long time, and later Trustee and Chairman of the Kasturba National Memorial Fund. He was also connected with several educational organisations in Gujerat.

In recent months, Mr Mavlankar showed a marked inclination to withdraw from political life into the field of constructive work. He announced during his tour of Andhra towards the end of January that he would not contest the next elections, and would devote his time to constructive work, mainly through the Gandhi and Kasturba Memorial Trusts of which he has been the Chairman since their inception.

He believed that the uplift of women was vital for the social and cultural regeneration of the country. Even during his illness, in the last few days he had discussed with colleagues plans to activise the programmes of the Kasturba Trust.

A great and ardent educationist, his solid contribution to the promotion of education is shown in the many educational institutions in Ahmedabad, which owe their origin and growth to him.

Madras Assembly adjourns

MADRAS, Feb. 27: The Madras Legislative Assembly today, Mr N. Gopala Menon, Speaker, presiding, mourned the death of Mr Mavlankar, and adjourned for 40 minutes as a mark of respect to his memory.

Mr Gopala Menon, who was dressed in black sherwani, made a reference to the death of Mr Mavlankar as soon as he took the Chair. He said it might be that many of them had not had any actual contact with Mr Mavlankar's work, but he had the privilege at the last Speakers' Conference of associating with him for a few days. Mr Mavlankar was in every sense of the word an ideal Speaker, and a great Parliamentarian.

"We in this Assembly and the State are deeply grieved over his death, and convey to the members of the bereaved family our deep sense of sorrow".

He requested the members to stand in their places in silence for two minutes, and then adjourned the House for 40 minutes.

"An upright soul"

Mr C. Rajagopalachariar called Mr Mavlankar "the most upright and diligent soul, and one of the best citizens of India." "Parliament will mourn the loss of a beloved head of the family. Numerous are the trusts over which Mr Mavlankar presided with an iron grip of integrity and good management," said Rajaji.

The Chief Minister, Mr K. Kamaraj said the death of Mr Mavlankar was a great loss to the country. He had conducted the proceedings of the Lok Sabha ably and well.

Dr P. V. Cherian, Chairman, Madras Legislative Council: "He was one of the best Speakers in the Parliament of any country. He had great grasp of parliamentary procedure. He was very tactful, and all of us at every conference looked up to him for guidance and instruction."

Mr K. Santhanam, Chairman of the Finance Commission. "His clarity, serenity, and precision were invaluable assets for the launching of India's constitution."

Mr C. Subramaniam, Finance Minister, and Leader of the House: "It is a great loss to the country. He was one of the ablest Speakers, and it is difficult to fill the void."

Mr P. Kakkan, President, Tamil Nad Congress Committee: "Mr Mavlankar won the affection and respect of all parties by the impartial way in which he discharged his duties as Speaker."

Fair weather

MADRAS, Feb. 27: Fair weather will prevail in Madras and neighbourhood till the evening of Tuesday. Weather will be dry over the region except for scattered light showers in Travancore-Cochin till the evening of Feb. 28.

The Mail

CALENDAR—FEB.-MARCH

		Sun A.M.	Sun P.M.	Moon P.M.	Moon A.M.
Tues.	28th	6 27	6 17	8 27	7 46
Wed.	29th	6 26	6 18	9 21	8 31
March					
Thur	1st	6 26	6 18	10 14	9 15
Fri.	2nd	6 25	6 18	11 6	10 1
Sat.	3rd	6 25	6 18	11 57	10 48
Sun.	4th	6 24	6 18	..	11 37
				A.M.	P.M.
Mon.	5th	6 23	6 18	12 47	12 26

PHASES OF THE MOON

Sun 4th Last Quarter 5-23 p.m.

WATER LEVELS

MADRAS, Feb. 27: The following are water levels of important reservoirs in the State:

Mettur Feb. 26,	52.0 ft
Papanasam Feb. 26,	101.95 ft
Periyar Feb. 26,	18.2 ft

MADRAS TEMPERATURE

MONDAY

	(M)	(N)
Maximum	85	83.9
Minimum	69.2	66.6
Humidity	84%	84%

THE MADRAS BUDGET

THE figure 166 evidently has some fascination for the Madras Finance Minister. Twelve months ago, when he presented the budget, he estimated that the deficit, after taking credit for income from increased taxation measures proposed, would be Rs 166 lakhs. Then this year, after presenting a much enlarged budget, and announcing certain taxation increases he again leaves uncovered a deficit of Rs 166 lakhs. The revised deficit, however, is higher at Rs 221 lakhs, in large part due to the extraordinary expenditure necessitated to repair the damage done by the cyclonic storm in the southern part of the State last year. In leaving last year's deficit uncovered the Finance Minister said he did so in the hope of some further measure of assistance in the Central budget. In this he was not disappointed for such increased grants were forthcoming, and if it had not been for the expenditure on flood relief, the budget might well have ended with quite a satisfactory surplus. This year again, the Finance Minister justifies leaving the deficit uncovered by commenting "it is not unlikely that the readjustments in taxation proposed in the Central Budget may give us something on items of Central revenue shared with the States". One wonders if the Madras Finance Minister has advance information about the readjustments in taxation proposed in the Central budget.

The new budget has also, it would seem, been framed with one eye on getting into operation the second five-year plan, and with the other on the elections which are to be held, as far as present prospects are concerned, early next year. This is evident from the basis of the increased taxation proposals which he has put forward, for the incidence will fall on a comparatively small section of the community, except one, and even in that case the commodity, sugar, is less widely used than jaggery, and the sales tax on palm gur is being removed as a compensatory measure perhaps. There are four proposals in the way of taxation. The Madras Government bus service will be one of the largest contributors to the Rs 40 lakhs anticipated from the increase of two and a half annas on diesel oil. At present the Government bus service uses about 2,500 gallons of light diesel oil for its buses every day. That such an increase was in the offing was evident from the observation of the Finance Minister a year ago, for he commented on the fact that receipts from motor spirit taxation were falling due to the increasingly rapid change-over from petrol to diesel, and in the past year that rate of change-over has increased. All-India figures, in fact show that Madras consumption of petrol has declined, while diesel oil consumption has materially increased. The Government bus service, however, can afford the additional impost, for it has made very considerable profits. The higher duty may make some difference to freight rates for road transport, or there may have to be adjustments of fares of passenger vehicles, but they should not be of any material importance.

Increasing the price of sugar, by the levy of another anna in the sales tax is a horse of another colour, especially when it is part of the next five-year plan to step up the production of sugar by the starting of a number of new factories in South India. An enhanced price now might, in view of the fact also that the tax on palm gur sales at all points is being removed, lead to a swing in consumption from sugar to jaggery, and cause some hesitancy on the part of those expected to help with the expansion of the sugar industry to embark on new schemes. It is a consumer article which might well have been left untouched at the present time, and the anticipated higher production allowed to take care of the requirement for additional revenue. Advancing the charges for high tension electricity supplies is justified by the Finance Minister who claims that the present rates, based on prewar conditions, are found, in many cases, to be below the cost of generation. People in Madras city will welcome the concession that the increase will not apply, and it is certainly a wise decision that new industrial concerns will be exempt for three years. That is in keeping with the desire of the Government to help small-scale industries to expand in the next five-year period.

Taken generally the budget shows a satisfactory expanding economy in the State, and there is an underlying optimism that this trend will continue, for the Minister has proposed an outlay for the first year of the next plan period of an amount in excess of the allocation included in the Planning Commission schemes. It is, in part, made up of new undertakings and a fairly considerable carry over from the first plan period due to capital works being in progress, and not completed. There is also ground for the Finance Minister's contentions that there is no need to be perturbed, because of the very satisfactory manner in which Madras has carried out the first plan. That also is a sound argument in support of the demand for greater consideration for the South in the next five years. MR SUBRAMANIAM very aptly points out that one aspect of the plan causing concern is with regard to development of large-scale industries, for the provision is negligible, and the very stable condition revealed in the budget should give added weight to his plea that "it is very necessary that in the matter of major industries, in the location of which there is a wider margin of choice, some preference should be given to this area, where perhaps the pressure of population per acre of cultivated land is the greatest." He is bound to have his wish, that he should be supported in this, granted, so that the economic growth of the State might be fostered.

Parliamentary procedure

THE Seminar on Parliamentary Democracy at New Delhi emphasised the need to avoid irrelevance in debate and to ensure that parliamentary time is put to the best possible advantage. MR M. N. KAUL suggested that more of the Bills introduced into Parliament should be referred to committees, and that the Speaker should have discretion to disallow any amendments already considered by a committee. MR R. VENKATARAMAN took the opposite view that the system of referring Bills to select committees or joint committees was unnecessary and useless. He remarked that not all members of select committees were interested in the Bills they were called upon to examine; he thought that when a motion for the consideration of a Bill is adopted, the Legislature might convert itself into a committee so that all those really interested in the measure may take part in the discussion. Such a procedure is permissible under existing rules, though not as an alternative to the examination of Bills by select committees.

India's Legislatures follow the practice in the British Parliament, where a Bill is referred either to a select committee, or to the whole House sitting in committee, if the House so decides on a motion. Even a measure thus considered and reported to Parliament may, after further debate, be recommitted to a committee so that other appropriate amendments may be incorporated in it. A special advantage in appointing a select committee is that it can, if it chooses, summon witnesses and collect evidence on the issues raised by a Bill. It is useful to continue such an arrangement even if, as MR VENKATARAMAN pointed out, some of the members of a select committee are indifferent to the provisions of a Bill. The alternative he indicated may also prove defective: it may happen that members of a committee are really in earnest, and they may make useful proposals, but when the House considers the measure others who have imperfectly understood its implications, or merely follow the dictates of overzealous party leaders, are in a majority and they throw out such proposals. Such experience, perhaps, forms the basis of MR KAUL's suggestion that amendments disposed of by a committee need not be discussed again. But a committee may only make recommendations; its decisions are not, and should not be, final. Much depends upon the individual members' sense of responsibility under any system that may be devised.

It is necessary not only to save parliamentary time, but also to check hasty legislation. A reform in that direction was suggested by a former Secretary of the Madras Legislature, MR R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR, in a University Lecture in Madras two years ago. He said: "The appointment of a select committee on a Bill at the time of its first reading instead of at the time of its second reading, may lead to some saving of time and perhaps more satisfying legislation." If that is done, the select committee may, as he argued, consider the principles underlying a Bill, and draft a new Bill if necessary; under the present rules, the committee may amend the clauses of a Bill, but not make any change interfering with its principles. In large popular assemblies, elected on the basis of universal suffrage, all members may not be equally interested in legislation. It may be desirable, therefore, as the Prime Minister said, to evolve some form of devolution of authority to committees to deal with the rapidly increasing problems facing Parliament and the Government.

Budget presented in Council

Minister defends new taxes

MADRAS, Feb. 27: Presenting the Budget Estimate for 1956-57, this afternoon in the Legislative Council, Mr M. Bhaktavatsalam, Leader of the House, stated "Our assets exceed our liabilities by a comfortable margin of Rs 20 crores. In the light of this reassuring fact, nobody can doubt our inherent financial strength, and our ability to play the part assigned to us in the implementation of the ambitious National Plan."

Public debt

The Minister said the public debt of the State at the close of the current year would be about Rs 100 crores. "We have made the necessary provision of Rs 400 lakhs in the Budget for servicing the debt. The borrowed moneys have been put to productive use, mostly on irrigation and electricity works which yield a fair return on the investment. The book value of our capital assets amount to over Rs 100 crores, and we have also lent over Rs 20 crores to agriculturists and local bodies."

He pointed out that to secure the resources necessary to implement the capital programme, the State expected liberal Union assistance, and for the balance, it would make another confident appeal to the people of the State to support the State loan to be floated in the course of the year.

The Minister also stated that it was, indeed, true that their commitments both on the capital and on the revenue sides were fast growing, landing them in frequent budgetary difficulties. But the fact remained that, by and large, they had been able to meet these commitments by raising new taxes and by indenting on the savings c" the people.

Long overdue

Justifying the new taxation measures, the Minister said enhancement of sales tax on Diesel oil was long overdue. It was only right that Diesel users should give up to the Government a portion of their advantages over petrol users.

The enhanced sales tax on sugar might put up the consumer price but they had jaggery in plenty in the State for those who could not afford sugar. The chances were that consumer resistance to the new levy might not be appreciable.

State Trading Corporation for Travancore-Cochin

RAJPRAMUKH'S ADDRESS TO ASSEMBLY

Measures for enactment of land legislation

From Our Correspondent

TRIVANDRUM, Feb. 27.

THE Rajpramukh of Travancore-Cochin told the State Assembly today that his Government was of the view that the constitution of a State Trading Corporation to carry on export trade in a few major dollar-earning commodities would be in the best interests of the State, and it would take active steps in this direction in cooperation with the Union Government.

In his inaugural address to the Assembly, the Rajpramukh said the Government hoped to enact into law in the coming year a number of measures, now before Select Committees, for land legislation, consistent with the declared policy of the National towards the achievement of a Socialistic order of society.

He also announced that a Commission would be set up to make suitable recommendations to settle landless people, in an equitable way, on land that could possibly be made available in the State.

The extent of land available in the State was so limited, and the people who had to be settled were so many that constant and anxious consideration would be necessary in this regard, he said.

Re-survey of land

He said the Government had recognised the need for a re-survey of the Travancore area of the State in view of the imperfect condition of land records in the area.

The Rajpramukh said it was gratifying to note the steady progress of the schemes under the First Plan, the targets of which in many cases had been achieved ahead of schedule.

He said the Second Plan outlay of Rs 71.20 crores was not adequate for the State's requirements but its limited resources would not allow a greater allocation. This amount, he said, would be supplemented by allotments under certain heads, like water supply and drainage for which the Government of India had not made allotments to States.

There can be no doubt that investment of this size will give substantial relief to unemployment, and add to national wealth and 'per capita' income."

He stated that the Government proposed to execute the Second Plan in close association with non-official bodies and committees. The successful implementation of the Plan would depend on the wholehearted cooperation of the public and non-official leaders

N.E.S. blocks

The Government also aimed at covering the entire State with N.E.S. blocks, which, judged by the results so far achieved, would lead the way to the more intensive development of the State in agriculture, industry, and social services.

Inquiry into cashewnut industry

The Rajpramukh said at the instance of the Government of India, an inquiry regarding the cashewnut industry was being conducted in Travancore-Cochin. A scheme to step up the production of cashenuts in the State with a view to reducing dependence on foreign raw materials would also be carried out during the next Plan period.

On the labour front, the Rajpramukh said the promotion and maintenance of industrial peace, and the safeguarding of the interests of both employees and employers would be the "anxious concern of his Government. Schemes had been formulated, he said, for labour housing which had been included in the Second Plan.

The Rajpramukh was sure that the House would give it earnest consideration, and arrive at a decistep up the production of cashewpeople of the State, and India as a whole when the States Reorganisation Bill came up before them.

The address did not contain any reference to the proposal for bigger States.

Three items

The Rajpramukh at the outset, said the Legislative Assembly had been summoned mainly to consider three items which demanded earnest consideration by the elected representatives of the people: the recommendations of the States Commission, financial statement for 1956-57 and certain important items of legislation.

He added that the report of the Committee which was appointed to inquire into the need for the redistribution of taluqs and villages into compact units had been received by the Government, and it would soon take a decision on the recommendations of the committee and would implement those decisions next year.

The Rajpramukh added that the results achieved so far would pave the way for the more intensive development of the State in industry, agriculture and social services. The Government had appreciated the necessity for the all-round development of industries as one of the means of tackling the problem of unemployment. Steps had been taken for the consolidation and organisation of Government-owned commercial concerns and a large number of small-scale industries in the State

For the achievement of greater efficiency in the working of industrial concerns, owned and managed by the Government a Board of Directors with powers similar to those enjoyed by the Board of Directors of a joint stock company had been constituted.

With a view to accelerating the pace of progress of the Khadi and village industries, the Government proposed to vest statutory powers in the Khadi and the Village Industries Board.

Grants

Steps were also being taken to give liberal grants to those engaged in a number of cottage and small-scale industries. Loans and grants to Cooperative societies and handloom weavers would be given on an increased scale during the next financial year in view of the success achieved in this field in the current year.

The major irrigation projects to be taken up under the Second Plan during 56-57 were: the second stage of the Chalakudy and Neyyar schemes, and the Cheerakuzhi and Boothathankettu projects.

A good number of medium irrigation and lift irrigation schemes were also programmed for execution during next year.

A new scheme of flood control in respect of the Karamana and the Killiyar had been drawn up, and it would be executed next year.

MADRAS BUDGET 1956-57

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

A. REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE ON REVENUE ACCOUNT

J	Accounts 1954-55	Budget Estimate, 1955-56	Revised Estimate, 1955-56	Budget Estimate 1956-57
	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs
(1) Revenue ...	43,32.88	47,92.07	52,68.04	60.77.95 (a)
(2) Expenditure ..	47,24.52	49,53.18	54,88.71	62.43.83
(3 Deficit (—) ..	—3.91.64	—1.66.11	—2,20.67	—1,65.88 (b)

(a) Includes Rs 1.45 lakhs as proceeds of new taxation.

(b) The ordinary deficit is Rs 3.10.88 lakhs, which is reduced to this figure by the credit taken for proceeds of new taxation.

B. TRANSACTIONS OUTSIDE THE REVENUE ACCOUNT

	Accounts 1954-55	Budget Estimate, 1955-56	Revised Estimate, 1955-56	Budget Estimate 1956-57
(1) RECEIPTS.—				
(a) Open market loans —less repayments	.02	6,22.76	9,74.42	9.26.10
(b) Loans from the Government of India —less repayments	11,26.18	13.83.19	16.20.78	21,55.40
(c) Deposits, etc., transactions, ... including sale of securities in reserves (net) ..	93.34	2,05.33	—4,31.99	1.47.60
Total Receipts	12,19.54	22,11.28	21,63.21	32,29.10
(2) DISBURSEMENTS.—				
(a) Capital expenditure, including State Trading Schemes	7,73.80	20,05.38	18,30.89	27,28.53
(b) Loans to local bodies, etc.—net disbursement	1,37.37	3,57.01	5,76.49	4,51.03
Total Disbursements	9,11.17	23,62.39	24,07.38	31,79.56
(3) Receipts minus Disbursements	+3,08.37	—1,51.11	—2,44.17	+49.54

C. BALANCES

	Accounts 1954-55	Budget Estimate, 1955-56	Revised Estimate, 1955-56	Budget Estimate 1956-57
(1) Opening Balance ...	7,14.45	3,67.22	6,31.18	1,66.34
(2) Closing Balance	6.31.18	50.00	1,66.34	50.00

In and around Madras City

By a Staff Reporter

A TRIBUTE to the Dental wing of the Madras Medical College, and the keen interest evinced by students in their studies was paid by Dr H. G. Grewe, of the University of Minnesota, who visited the city during the week-end. A member of the Federation Dentaire International, Dr Grewe touched Madras during his study tour of India.

It was interesting to hear him speak of dentistry in the United States. Dr C. S. Raman, President of the Madras State Branch Dental Association, was by his side when he said that the dentists in U.S. were a busy lot. At least a week's advance notice was necessary for an appointment with a dentist, he said, with a gesture which made Madrasi dental surgeons look askance. This was because the American public were "dental conscious."

He visited the various departments of the Madras Medical College, accompanied by Dr C. S Raman and Capt. M. G. Rao.

Radio debate

I AM told that Mr C. K. Thirumalai, of Osmania University, has been chosen to represent the South in the All-India Inter-University Debate to be broadcast from New Delhi on Mar. 1 at 4 p.m.

The selection was made at a preliminary debate in English held at All India Radio Studios, Madras, when he was adjudged the best speaker.

There were representatives from five other South Indian Universities: Messrs S. Sivaswamy (Annamalai), B. C. Eswaramurthy (Mysore) A. Satyanarayana (Andhra), S. Venkitachalam Ayyar, (Travancore) and R. Sivalingam (Madras)

The subject for the debate was "Nationalisation is suited to India's advancement".

Messrs M. Ruthnaswami, S. Narasimham, Principal, A. N. Jain College, Madras, and Smt. Nallamuthu Ramamurthi, acted as the judges.

Radio Play competition

I UNDERSTAND AIR is also to conduct a Radio Play Competition for students of colleges and universities.

Three prizes of the value of Rs 250, Rs. 150 and Rs 50 are offered to the writers of the three best radio plays in each of the following languages: Hindi, Urdu, Punjabi, Marathi, Gujerati, Kannada, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Bengali Oriya, Assamese, and Kashmiri.

The competition is open to students of colleges and Universities or other recognised educational institutions of equivalent standard.

Examinations, no doubt, are fast approaching. Despite this, some of you, students, may have the luck and the time. Why not try? The last date for the receipt of entries is Mar. 17.

Madrasi student's distinction

HERE is news of interest to Madrasis from Sheffield University, England. For the first time in its history, the University has an Indian as President of its Students' Union. He is Mr R. N. Swamy, 26, of Madras, who is taking a post-graduate course in civil engineering.

Mr Swamy, who takes office in August, was elected by a majority of 182 votes. A graduate of Annamalai University, he has been at Sheffield for two years, and is President of the University's Indian Society, and Secretary of the East-West Friendship Council.

The Union's retiring President, Mr Alan Cox, said that, as far as he knew, this was the first time an Indian had stood for Presidentship of the Union. An Egyptian had been President in 1938.

Hospital workers

I DROPPED into General Hospital, and was surprised to find a new badge adorning the arms of workers.

The badges are not supplied by the hospital authorities, but are the workers' own. They are called "Demands Day" badges.

What are their demands: A minimum wage of Rs 35 per month, revision of scales of pay 8-hour day, and weekly holidays, payment of overtime wages for overtime service in line with the Factory Act for work done on off-days.

I am told workers in other city hospitals and in the King Institute Guindy, are also wearing the badges.

How long do you propose to wear them I asked. Till our demands are met, perhaps a month, some of the workers said.

Elections in S. Viet-Nam

468 candidates for 123 seats

SAIGON, Feb. 25: South Viet-Nam Government officials announced today that 468 candidates would contest the 123 seats in next Sunday's elections for the formation of a Constituent Assembly.

About six million people will be eligible to vote.

Only the five pro-Government parties have put forward candidates. The four Opposition parties confirmed today that they would boycott the elections, as they object to some of the electoral laws.

Selwyn Lloyd to hold talks with Nehru

LONDON, Feb. 25: Britain's reply to India's suggestion of an Anglo-Soviet Foreign Ministers' meeting about the situation in post-war Indo-China will be taken personally to Delhi by Mr Selwyn Lloyd next month, diplomatic sources here said.

The Foreign Secretary will have two days of important talks with Mr Jawaharlal Nehru before he goes to Karachi to represent Britain at the Council meeting of the South East Asian Treaty Organisation on Mar. 6.

TEMPERATURE UP IN BRITAIN

Threat of floods

LONDON, Feb. 26: Temperatures rose above freezing point in Britain and many European countries today. The coming thaw raises the threat, however, that floods will replace the havoc caused by the big freeze over the past four weeks.

British and United States troops stood by in Germany to help combat anticipated floods. Other American troops in France were also prepared to take part in flood relief operations.

Warmer weather also brought the prospect of a halt in the soaring price of vegetables in many countries. Farmers have been hit so badly by the cold spell that in Belgium, the Government promised them State aid.

Soviet ships trapped in ice

LONDON, Feb. 26: The Soviet Antarctic expedition ships "Ob" and "Lena" are trapped in ice some distances from Mirny base, and two Russian helicopters have evacuated their crews and scientists to the base, Moscow Radio said today.

KEEP ALOOF FROM POLITICS

Advice to Badaga students

MADRAS, Feb. 27: The Chief Minister, Mr K. Kamaraj, presiding over the annual day of the Badaga Students' Association at the Woodlands Hotel, Mylapore advised them to keep aloof from politics. He said the social welfare activities of the Association were commendable. He was happy that Badaga students interested themselves in educational advancement of the community. They should also devote attention to the economic emancipation of the people.

Mr B. Hiriyan, President, welcomed those present, and Mr H. M. Raju presented the annual report.

Mr H. Nanjundan proposed a vote of thanks.

U.S. SEGREGATION CRISIS

Negroes plan passive resistance

NEW YORK, Feb. 26.

NEGRO leaders yesterday planned a nation-wide hour-long work stoppage on Mar. 28 in support of the Montgomery, Alabama, bus boycott.

A spokesman said the nation-wide Negro demonstration would be a forerunner to a possible "national Mahatma Gandhi type movement."

Preliminary demonstrations and prayer meetings would begin next week.

For 11 weeks, Negroes in Montgomery have pooled cars, hitch-hiked, and walked to work as a protest against segregation on city buses. About 100 of them have been arrested on anti-boycott charges.

The Negro spokesman said prolonged national work stoppages and mass fasting by U.S. Negroes were possibilities, if the Alabama racial crisis was not resolved.

Massive resistance

Meanwhile, Virginia's Democratic Senator, Mr Harry F. Byrd, called for "massive resistance" in the South in answer to the Negro idea of passive resistance. Speaking of the Supreme Court's de-segregation order he said: "If we can organise Southern States for massive resistance to this order I think that in time the rest of the country will realise that racial integration is not going to be accepted in the South".

He spoke after the Council of Bishops of an important Negro church group decided today to call on President Eisenhower for immediate Government intervention in the Montgomery bus dispute.

Bishops of the 1.600f1000-member African Methodist Episcopal Church began drafting letters to Mr Eisenhower and to Mr Herbert Brownell, the Attorney-General, to ask for Federal Court action to protect Negroes arrested in the Alabama City for boycotting buses.

Democrats' fears

Democratic electioneering strategists fear that should their candidates appear to support Southern Negroes, then the Southern Democrats might "bolt" from the Party, and wreck its chances in the Presidential elections. Then again, were Democrats to appear indifferent, they also stood to lose the important Negro vote in the country.

Alabama's Governor, Mr J. E. Folsom, was reported to have won support for the proposed Bi-racial Commission to settle differences between Whites and Negroes. Some observers, however, said he was unlikely to succeed in this.

A Grand Jury investigating the bus boycott said unless race relations in Montgomery took a calmer course there was serious danger of bloody clashes.

Stevenson hails de-segregation

HARTFORD, Feb. 25: Mr Adlai Stevenson, Democratic Presidential aspirant, tonight hailed the advent of de-segregation in education as "one of the greatest accomplishments of our generation."

Mr Stevenson told a Democratic Jackson Jefferson Day function here that his Party believed in equal rights for all and special privilege for none.

Ku Klux Klan parade

FORT OGLETHORPE, Feb. 26: About 75 motor cars bearing members of the hooded, anti-Negro secret society known as the Ku Klux Klan paraded through Fort Oglethorpe in full regalia last night the Police reported. They carried "separate but equal schools" signs on their cars.

INDIANS IN EAST AFRICA

Gopala Menon's advice

NAIROBI, Feb. 25: Mr M. Gopala Menon, retiring Indian High Commissioner in British East and Central Africa, in a farewell message to Indians in Africa, urged them to identify their interests with those of their resurgent African "brothers," ignoring the question of their petty privileges that might be threatened.

"Be large-hearted in the best Indian traditions," he advised the Indians. "Overlook your petty privileges that may be threatened, and pay attention to that ultimate identity of interest that binds you and your African brothers, and that common destiny which you shall all share with them."

Dexterity in reporting

Stenographers of Madras praised

MADRAS, Feb. 27: Presiding over the anniversary celebrations of the Stenographers Guild at Thyagarayanagar, yesterday, Dr A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar, paid a tribute to the stenographers of Madras State for their dexterity in reporting public speeches.

From his experience he could say that reporters and stenographers with whom he had come in contact had not only reported him well but in some cases improved his original speeches, too. Madras University had been giving encouragement to its employees who had passed the higher grade examination in shorthand and typewriting. The University in consultation with journalists had prescribed that those who wanted to get diplomas in journalism from the University should also pass shorthand and typewriting. With the use of shorthand and typewriting, he was afraid the use of caligraphy had been lost. It was difficult to find people writing legibly nowadays. Copy writing in schools had not received the attention it deserved.

Advice to speakers

Mr C Rajagopalachariar said speakers should speak slowly, and also not too long. Stenographers should have sufficient speed to take down fast speakers also. Speakers should be short and slow so that they could be accurately reported. Stenographers should study good books and get a knowledge of all subjects with which they might have to deal with in their daily work.

Mr N. Ranga Rao welcomed those present, and Mr G. Bhaskaran Nayar read messages. Mr S. Balasubramanian presented the annual report.

Mr N. Venkatarama Ayyar deplored that the difficulties of stenographers were neither understood, nor appreciated. Facilities should be provided for learning shorthand in Hindi.

Mr T. R. Ramaswami proposed a vote of thanks.

The High & the Low

A CAR crash has condemned ten-year-old Michael Oates to a living death. He will sleep for 60 or 70 years, say doctors, will never wake up again.

Reason: His brain has been damaged beyond repair. That's their diagnosis, but no remedy yet.

What a plight! Poor boy, sleep eternal has gripped him.

It's all because of an accident he has to pass his life in sleep.

Sleep, sweet sleep, it's Nature's best nurse. How soothing it is! Can we afford to say so? Doubtful.

* * *

YES. Sixty or seventy years, he has to sleep. Cannot conceive of it.

And then, if he were to belie the doctors, rise up, how changed he would find the world to be.

Washington Irving's Rip Van Winkle may pale into insignificance.

Twenty years' sleep Rip Van Winkle had. Even that how much it amused us.

The story is a masterpiece of fiction, delighting the people of all ages the world over.

* * *

WELL, has not India a classic example of a champion sleeper? Read the Ramayana. Kumbakarna gets the credit for this.

Kumbakarna too, was the victim of an accident, but of a different kind.

Is it not said that following an austere penance he bungled when he asked the Lord for a boon.

A slip of the tongue condemned him for ever. He intended to seek immortality, but actually sought "sleep".

Once the boon is granted, no going back. And Kumbakarna had to sleep all his lifetime.

* * *

NEXT to Hindu mythology, Greek, French, and Roman literature afford classical examples.

Fifty-seven years a Greek poet slept, says a tale. 37 years more than Rip Van Winkle.

Story has it that he went to fetch a sheep, but fell asleep.

Getting up after 57 years he did not abandon his mission. All the time his mind was on the job. What oneness of purpose?

He continued the search on waking up, got home.

The surprise of surprises awaited him. His younger brother had grown grey, with age's wrinkles on his face.

Difficult it was for him to compromise to the changes.

* * *

LOOK sharp. What about the sleeping beauty which we have heard of in French literature?

Shut up in an enchanted castle, is she not said to have slept for 100 years?

Oh! That's a fairy tale.

Maybe. Yet how did it happen? Imagination gives a touch of realism.

Young minds gape in wonder, and build castles in the air. How many of them aspire to be "sleeping beauties"? Poor ones, they hardly see the difference between fact and fiction.

* * *

EVER gone to Marseilles. If you haven't, when you do miss not the Victor's Church.

A large stone coffin you are shown. Bodies of seven youths who have slept for 230 years in it, says the guide.

True, it's a record even in fiction and fable.

How could that happen? The guide waxes eloquent.

Fearing persecution, the youths flee their city, seek refuge in a cave.

Struck by sleep, they lay there for 230 years. Believe it or not when they opened their eyes—be prepared to receive the shock—they died.

Poor youths, never had an opportunity to realise the passage of Time, and the miracles wrought by it.

They are not Rip Van Winkles.

* * *

BUT Napoleon was a marvellous fellow. Not only in the battlefield, also in sleep.

He could achieve the trick, sleep at will.

Asked how he accomplished it, he used to say, self-mastery of the brain.

Brain consists of a number of drawers, close them, you sleep.

Good. You should also know the trick to open them. Probably Napoleon knew it, not the "Ontario boy", or modern medical science.

Doctors haven't yet found the clue how to open up the "shut" drawers.

Prayers are, therefore, offered in Ontario, for more things are wrought by prayer than this world has ever dreamt of.

THOUGHT: Sleep is death's younger brother, and it's so like him, that I never dare trust him without my prayers.

N.J.R.

QUALITY DRUGS

Minister's advice to industry

MADRAS, Feb. 27: Mr A. B. Shetty, Health Minister, yesterday, presiding over the silver jubilee of the Alembic Distributing Agency, at the Woodland Hotel, Mylapore, stressed the need to maintain a high standard of purity in the manufacture of drugs by indigenous pharmaceutical concerns.

The Alembic Chemical Works had built up a reputation for quality products. Their aim was to make India self-sufficient in essential drugs.

They should see that drugs of standard quality were produced and sold to the public at reasonable prices.

Mr R. G. Philar welcomed the guests, and traced the history of the Firm.

Dr I. B. Amin, Dr K. Vasudeva Rao and Dr D. V. Venkappa spoke.

Mr R. S. K. Swami proposed a vote of thanks.